



ABSTRACT AND BIOGRAPHY

Fostering an Environment Conducive to Successful Risk Management

NASA has standardized a Continuous Risk Management (CRM) Process for implementation within the agency. CRM is an engineering management practice with processes, methods and tools for managing risks within a project or program. This practice provides a disciplined environment that continually assesses what could go wrong, identifies strategies to mitigate those risks, and helps prioritize resources based on risk.

During the implementation of CRM, several factors play a key role in ensuring the process is successful. These factors include open communication, both horizontally and vertically, simple and efficient processes, an easy-to-understand risk tool, active engagement from program and project leadership, and strong management backing. However, environmental, or cultural factors can help or hinder even those processes. Some factors that seemed to hinder and help the most in the risk management process are discussed here.

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Currently, Mr. Canga is the Risk Manager for the Space Shuttle Program (SSP) where he is responsible for establishing SSP Risk Management policy and maintaining the SSP risk baseline including Probabilistic Risk Assessment models for assessing technical risk.

Most recently, Mr. Canga worked in NASA's Independent Program Assessment Office providing risk management and risk assessment expertise to incorporate developments in risk assessment and management practice into IPAO assessments and products. He participated on IPAO teams conducting Program and Project assessments for a variety of programs and projects including Integrated Financial Management Program, Hubble Space Telescope Robotic Servicing Project, Living with a Star program, and X-37 project.

Prior to coming to IPAO, Mr. Canga served in the Advanced Program and Analysis Division of JSC supporting preliminary design assessments for OSP and NGLT programs. Mr. Canga performed as lead for Safety and Mission Assurance for the X-38 project. Mr. Canga was the JSC resident Quality Engineer for the refurbishment of Space Shuttles Endeavour and Columbia at Palmdale, CA.

Mr. Canga received his Bachelor of Science degree in Chemical Engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, NY.



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Ms. Wood is an experienced Risk Analyst for SAIC, performing Risk Management for NASA at the Johnson Space Center in Houston. Her work in risk management experience has carried her to other NASA Centers, namely the Glenn Research Center in Ohio and the Goddard Spaceflight Center in Maryland. She has worked risk management from the Center standpoint and for the International Space Station Program. She is currently performing risk management for the Space Shuttle program, as well as under the new Constellation program at NASA, for the Crew Exploration Vehicle. She has worked at the Johnson Space Center for over 19 years.

Ms. Wood received her Bachelor's and Master's Degree in Education from Texas State University in San Marcos, TX.